

EAST HARRIET FARMSTEAD NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
Minutes for the Meeting of the Board of Directors
June 4, 2008 7:00pm
Lyndale Farmstead Park, 3900 Bryant Ave S, Minneapolis

Board Members in attendance: Dean Carlson, Michael Dietrich, Chris Gallaty, Pamela Meier, Matt Perry, Patty Selly, Bruce Thomson, James Thorson, Bruce Wadman, Roger Worm

Board Members Not in attendance: Staven Bruce

Others in attendance: Michael Sullivan, Emily Winter (EHFNA Staff Member), Dee Kanton (resident), Linea Palmisano (LHiNC President), Ann Lynch (Park Director), Sid Monroe (resident), Jake Weyer (SWJ writer), Jay Walljasper (Kingfield resident and special guest speaker), Ralph Remington (Ward 10 Council Member), Kim Malrick (Ward 10 Aide)

1) Announcements: e-News article deadline is June 8th. NRP Safety Communications Workshops, 3rd Thurs. of each month from 6:30-8:00 PM. Hosted by Luther Krueger and Robert Thompson (NRP) and held at the Crown Roller Mill, Second Floor Conference Room, 105 5th Ave S, Minneapolis. Household Hazardous Waste Drop-off, Saturday, June 28th 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM at the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board Operations Center, entrance located on King's Highway (Dupont Avenue) between 38th and 40th Street.

2) Consent Agenda: Item #3 (approval of April Minutes). Motion: Move to approve consent agenda, moved and seconded. Eight members voted approval by voice vote. James Thorson abstained.

3) Council Member Report: Ralph Remington, Councilperson Ward 10: Update - Up to 4:00 AM *Serving of Liquor for Bars and Restaurants during Republican Convention*. Mpls. City Council has not yet voted on this issue yet, but the consensus of members is to allow bars and restaurants in the Central Business District (CBD) to serve until 4:00 AM from the evening of August 31st through Sept. 4th. This includes Sunday off-sell of liquor. The CBD is roughly the downtown area. The hotel near Chicago-Lake Street is included. A special license is required at a cost of \$2,500. If Uptown business district interested in being included, please contact Council member Remington. St. Paul City Council originally voted this down, but since Mpls. City Council is considering this, they will also vote for the late opening/serving.

Question: Is this normal for other cities for conventions of this type? Most other major cities stay open later than MSP. Mr. Remington continued that, according to the police department, later opening is better for public safety, as the patrons, leaving the establishments, are spread out over a longer period of time, rather than all at once at 1:00 or 2:00 AM.

Protest Ordinance is also under consideration by the Mpls. City Council. They are scheduled to vote on this issue on Friday, June 6th. Intent is to have organizations/groups register (voluntarily and for free) so that the city and the Mpls. police department (MPD) may provide adequate first-aid and other safety amenities. Two versions are presently under consideration - volunteer registration only or the incentive to register early for priority spaces in the city.

No Heat Ordinance. Passed. This ordinance updated previous ordinance that dictated that rented apartments could not have heater energy supply turned off below a certain outside temperature. The new ordinance specifies no energy supply turn-off between specific dates in the late fall and early spring.

County Libraries have Sunday Hours again. Council member Remington was asked where the funding came from. He replied that it is a Hennepin County issue.

Breakfast with Ralph: Wednesday June 11th, 7:30-9:00 AM at Calhoun Grill. Council Member Remington is scheduled to attend EHFNA meetings quarterly.

5) Special Guest Speaker: Jay Walljasper, author of *The Great Neighborhood Book*, gave a talk on the power of neighborhoods. The book project was done with the assistance of the Project for Public Spaces (PPS). His main thesis is that the problems of society can be handled at the level of neighborhoods. He gave numerous examples from his book to support his contention.

The example closest to home for him and us (EHFNA) was the influence of the neighborhoods on the Lyndale Avenue redesign that started 13 years ago as a street widening project that transformed into the neighborhood and pedestrian friendly design that exists today.

He also read passages from his book. A Question and Answer Period followed the talk.

6) Rosefest Update: Mary Jo Hackett (Rosefest Coordinator) gave an update on the Rosefest planning. *See attached for details.* Thanks was given to the Walker Methodist Newsletter for including an article in their last issue - Dee Kanton, a Walker Resident was instrumental in sharing the information. Emily Winter asked that fellow board members scavenge their houses for unopened children's items that may be gifted for children's prizes at the fest.

7) Park Report: Ann Lynch reported that this Saturday, June 7th is the last scheduled soccer league day. Coaches' game and picnic are scheduled for this Friday evening, June 6th. Senior Garden Tea is scheduled for Thursday, June 12th at 12:00 PM. Also that evening, there will be a showing of the movie *The Wizard of Oz*. A new track & field program is starting on the Roosevelt High School grounds this summer. Another new program, *Canoe With A Naturalist*, is scheduled for Tuesday July 8th and 9th from 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM. Participants should meet at Lake Harriet. Registration is at Lyndale Farmstead Park.

8) EHFNA Response to Wine/Beer License Application by Café Agri.

Café Agri, located at 4300 Bryant Avenue South, opened in May of this year and is seeking a Class E wine/beer license. Owner Fabrizio Ciccone introduced himself and the restaurant at the EHFNA's May monthly meeting. At that time he also indicated he would be seeking a wine/beer license. Mr. Ciccone and his business partner, Alberto Forte, met with nearby residents and business owners at an EHFNA sponsored community forum on June 2nd. A public hearing was held from 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. on June 4th. Both the EHFNA-sponsored meeting with nearby residents and business owners and the public hearing held at the Lyndale Farmstead Park building were sparsely attended with no one in opposition to the wine/beer application at either meeting. The issue of additional parked cars was brought forth by a business owner at the June 2nd meeting. Café Agri ownership and the affected business owner collaborated to come up with potential options for easing the parking. The businesses will pursue these with EHFNA's support as needed.

Mr. Perry reported that written input received by City Licensing regarding the Café Agri's wine/beer license request was overwhelming in support of granting the license.

Mr. Perry stated he saw EHFNA's primary role in matters such as this as a communication facilitator. As such he suggested EHFNA not typically take a position on this liquor licensing applications so it can continue to advocate for all stake holders in the neighborhood, including business and residential, and facilitate communications.

Mr. Perry made the suggestion to send a letter from EHFNA documenting the community engagement efforts by Café Agri ownership with nearby residents and businesses and EHFNA to the Chair of the City Council's Public Safety and Regulatory Services Committee who reviews license requests.

The suggestion to send this letter was approved by acclamation.

9) Committee Reports

Parks and Environment - Bruce Wadman shared that the Clean Air Fair (Bryant/Beat Fair) was a great success. Upwards of 75 people participated.

Community Building - Pamela Meier reported that the Sale-o-Rama was also successful. Fifteen households in the neighborhood signed up for garage sales. EHFNA netted \$139. Pamela will be doing a follow-up survey.

Crime and Safety - Matt Perry gave an update on the Lyndale Reconstruction noting that road closures were being put in place prior to construction starting to allow for additional gas line work to be done. Construction was scheduled to begin June 16th starting with the section of Lyndale between 50th and 46th Streets. Lyndale Avenue between 50th and 38th Streets is planned to be under construction during the 2008 construction season. During the 2009 construction season, the section from Minnehaha Creek to 50th and from 38th to 31st will be under construction. The section of road from 38th to 31st Streets will have one lane of traffic open in each direction during the road reconstruct. Temporary Water Update is forthcoming from the city.

Mr. Perry is working with the county to obtain a Waiver of Conditional Use for the closed Super America parking lot due to unique circumstances. The intent is to make this parking area available to La Rue's customers during the reconstruction. La Rue's is the only business that requires on-street parking that is located along the proposed closed parts of Lyndale avenue this year.

Chris Gallaty spoke to the Slow Down Lawn Sign Program for Bryant Avenue during the Lyndale Ave. reconstruction. The Crime and Safety Committee plans to give away the signs to households located on Bryant Avenue within the EHFNA neighbor.

10. Adjourn. Meeting was adjourned at 8:56 PM.

Minutes Submitted by:

Roger Worm, Board Member

Minutes Approved By:

Matt Perry, EHFNA Chair